

(Chang, 1975), and we have recently seen a man in this clinic who developed infectious mononucleosis 3 months after sexual contact with a woman who had the same condition. This is much longer than the incubation period of gonorrhoea when it is symptomatic (normally 2 to 5 days). If both infections are acquired at the same time, the patient will be cured of his gonorrhoea long before he develops the symptoms of infectious mononucleosis. This is the most probable explanation for the scarcity of cases of infectious mononucleosis in STD Clinics.

Yours faithfully,

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May 26, 1976

The future of venereology

TO THE EDITOR,

British Journal of Venereal Diseases

SIR—It is unusual, but agreeable, to find myself in complete support of Mr Ambrose King.

'These unwise changes' have been attempted before, happily unsuccessfully, in order to alter the name of our unique and proud 'The Medical Society for the Study of Venereal Diseases'. It was Mr King's 'The' which prevailed some years ago, I think.

At that time I quoted the immortal words of a great Prime Minister, 'Why can't you let it alone'. I repeat them now, a sentiment which impinges almost hourly today, in the incessant clamour for change. 'Ours is no

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ordinary calling. We, whose proud boast is of the whole realm of human pathology', should preserve our classical title.

Yours faithfully,

W. H. DICKINSON PRIEST

LA GARENNE
CLOS DU FALLE
GROUVILLE
JERSEY, C. I.
August 18, 1976

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